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S&H Form: (2/01)
Attorney Docket No. 1916.1001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Michihito KUMAYAMA

Application No.: 10/564,979

Group Art Unit: 3721

Confirmation No.: 5431

Filed: January 18, 2006

Examiner: Candace Elizabeth Brakewood

For: STAPLER AND CONNECTED STAPLE ASSEMBLY CASSETTE

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

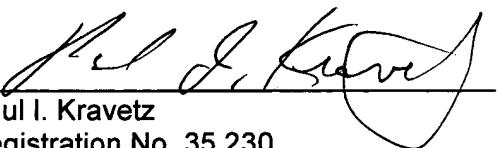
In response to the Office Action mailed January 8, 2007, applicant elects Group I including Claims 1-5, without traverse.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: January 10, 2007

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